

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 01757 270227Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

EUR-12 /097 W

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R 270023Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6418

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 1757

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, ENRG, EEW, MX, CU, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET-CUBAN OIL RELATIONSHIP AND EXCHANGE OF  
INFORMATION ON OIL AND HARBOR DEVELOPMENTS

1. IN CONVERSATION AT LUNCHEON, INITIATED BY CUBAN AND  
SOVIET DIPLOMATIC REPS IN MEXICO, EMBOFF DISCUSSED  
VARIOUS ASPECTS OF SOVIET-CUBAN OIL ARRANGEMENT AND  
APPARENT CUBAN NON-INTEREST IN MEXICAN OIL. BASED ON  
COMMENTS MADE BY CUBAN, MEXICAN TERMS ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE  
TO CUBANS UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS. SUBSEQUENT REMARKS  
BY SOVIET OFFICIAL, HOWEVER, INDICATES SOVIETS APPARENTLY  
SEE OIL AS ONE MEANS TO WIDEN CRACK IN ECONOMIC BLOCKADE.

2. EXACT TERMS OF SOVIET-CUBAN OIL RELATIONSHIP  
UNCERTAIN BUT RUSSIAN DID ADMIT CONTRACT WAS RECENTLY  
REVISED UPWARD TO REFLECT HIGHER WORLD PRICES FOR OIL.  
RUSSIAN APPEARED EAGER (PERHAPS MORE SO THAN HIS CUBAN  
COLLEAGUE) TO FIND NEW SOURCES OF SUPPLY FOR CUBA CLOSER  
TO HOME. THIS IS POSSIBLY AN INDICATION THAT THE RUSSIANS  
ARE TIRING OF OIL BURDEN CUBA IMPOSES ON THEM.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 01757 270227Z

3. CUBAN MENTIONED EXPLORATION EFFORTS WERE UNDERWAY

IN COASTAL WATERS AROUND CUBA, USING RUSSIAN EQUIPMENT,  
BUT SO FAR COULD REPORT NO SUCCESS.

4. IN CONCLUSION, RUSSIAN ASKED EMBOFF TO SUPPLY  
MATERIALS AVAILABLE ON LATIN AMERICAN OIL DEVELOPMENTS.  
EMBASSY PREPARED TO SEND COLLECTION OF PAPERS AND  
DOCUMENTS OF UNCLASSIFIED NATURE IF DEPT. DOES NOT  
OBJECT.

5. IN SEPARATE BUT RELATED DEVELOPMENT, EMBASSY HAS  
BEEN APPROACHED BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVE LYKES LINES FOR  
INFORMATION ON CUBAN HARBORS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT A PORT  
DIRECTORY EXISTS THAT IS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE. IF  
DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS IT ADVISABLE, IT IS REQUESTED  
TO PROVIDE COPY DIRECTORY TO LYKES. JOVA

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## Message Attributes

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